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FPO-CE-23029 (108454-1)

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s): | Jacob R. Hall |) | | |
| Serial No.: | 10/646,974 |) | | |
| Filed: | August 22, 2004 |) | Group Art Unit: | 3632 |
| For: | FIXING APPARATUS |) | Examiner: | Ramon O. Ramirez |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98, documents that may be material to the examination of this application are listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Copies of each document are enclosed.

Enclosed is a copy of the Communication from the European Patent Office dated October 19, 2004, a copy of the European search report completed September 28, 2004 and a copy of each reference cited therein. Also enclosed is a translation of the Resume of the French Patent No. 679,354.

No inference should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any disclosure in the listed documents is equivalent to the subject invention.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to enumerate each and every feature disclosed by each document, however. The Examiner is requested to review these documents and to determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures, if any, with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

The right to later set forth how the claimed invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and documents recited herein, and those that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application is reserved.

The recitation herein of the art and documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

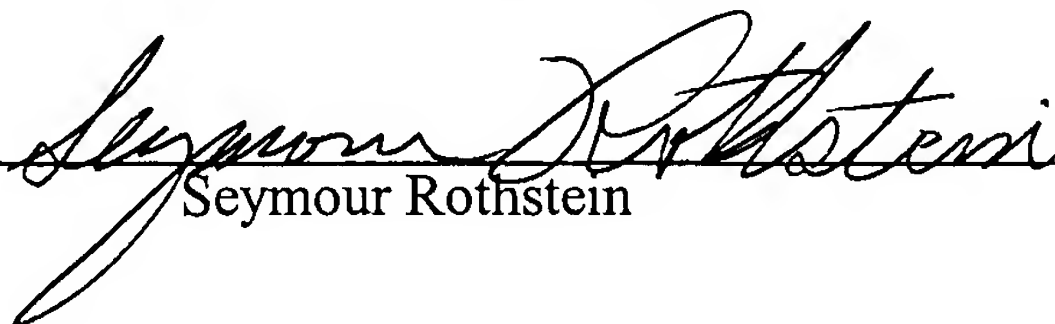
Date: December 13, 2004

By 
Seymour Rothstein (Reg. No. 19,369)

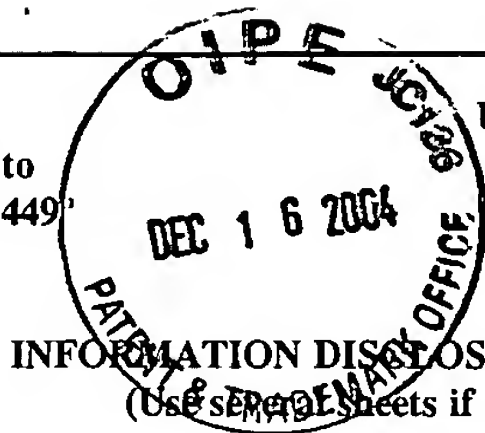
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and its attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 13, 2004.


Seymour Rothstein

(Rev. 5/92)
Comparable to
Form PTO-1449



U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Atty. Docket No. FPO-CE-23029

Serial No. 10/646,974

Applicants Jacob R. Hall

Filing Date August 22, 2004

Group 3632

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use separate sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| | 2002/0159253 | 10/31/02 | DALEBOUT et al. | 362 | 191 | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation | |
|--|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|--------------|----|
| | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | FR 679 354 | 04/11/30 | FRANCE | | | X Partial | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.